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MONTANA
Comprehensive Health Planning NEWS

Vol. 1 - No. 1 | 35 - 11th Avenue, Helena, Montana | 449-3121 | June 30, 1969

CHP NEWSLETTER TO COMMUNICATE WHAT'S HAPPENING

This is the first publication of Montana's Comprehensive Health Planning newsletter, which will now be arriving regularly. This newsletter will attempt to keep those people who are active and interested in CHP informed of the activities of the State CHP Office, health planning activities in Montana's five districts, and what the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare is contemplating relative to CHP.

* * *

TASK FORCE APPROACH GIVES ADVISORY COUNCIL ADDED STRENGTH

At its June 13 meeting in Helena, Montana's Advisory Council on Comprehensive Health Planning initiated a plan to attack some very specific health problems in Montana via the task force approach. Acting on recommendations from standing committees, the State CHP staff will shortly launch a task force study of the health needs and delivery of health care to low-income and minority populations within the State.

* * *

CHP COUNCIL TAKES STAND ON FLUORIDATION

The State CHP Advisory Council has given a blanket endorsement to the Council on Dental Health's resolution seeking the fluoridation of public water supplies as the most effective, economical and safest method for partial prevention of dental decay. Endorsement followed a positive report on the program from the Council's Personal Health Services Committee.

* * *

CHP TO INVESTIGATE NEED FOR SYSTEM OF SITE PERMITS

The Advisory Council's Committee on Environmental Health will undertake a study to determine the desirability of establishing a state system of site permits for commercial operations which constitute major sources of environmental pollution, and will--if necessary--propose appropriate legislation. In addition, a meteorological study of air circulation and stagnation in the lower inversion-prone valley sites afflicted with recurring smog conditions will be undertaken.

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LICENSING LAWS WILL BE EXAMINED

A review of Montana laws relating to the licensing requirements of health professionals which constitute barriers to the maximum utilization of professional personnel will be made by the Council's Manpower Committee.

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NEED FOR SUB-PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL TO BE STUDIED

The State Advisory Council's Manpower Committee will initiate an investigation into the need for the preparation of sub-professional health personnel to meet manpower problems in our sparsely populated state

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FORT BENTON MEETING SLATED FOR JULY 10

Health professionals and interested lay persons in District 2 will meet in Fort Benton on Thursday, July 10, at 8 p.m. in the Fort Benton High School multipurpose room. This will be the first meeting of representatives of the 12-county area. The meeting will serve as an introduction to the comprehensive health planning approach to health, and as a means to elect interested persons to serve on a steering committee in District 2 to begin organizational activities in that area.

EASTERN MONTANA SURVEY NEAR COMPLETION

The Eastern Montana Health Planning Council reported at the June Advisory Council meeting that its $100,000 OEO funded survey on the health needs of the citizens of our 16 Eastern counties was near completion and that the results would be mailed to the University of Chicago by the end of June. It was also related that the numerous interviewers hired to carry out the interviews had had excellent cooperation. We will keep you informed of the results of this survey as they begin to roll in.

* * *

TWO MEETINGS SET FOR DISTRICT FOUR

Interested health and lay persons from the Helena area, and the surrounding communities it serves, will meet in Townsend Tuesday, July 8, at 8 p.m. in the high school multipurpose room. An effort will be made at that time to organize a local health planning organization and to interest those present in participating in an areawide organization which will include the Bozeman, Butte, and Helena communities. A meeting will be held in Bozeman on July 14 with the same objective in mind: first, to get a local structure developed--if desired--to meet and assess the local health needs and to plan to meet these needs; and second, to generate interest in the larger area organization, which will, through cooperation, be able to provide the kind of direction necessary to implement health planning in District 4.

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GOVERNOR INITIATES HUMAN RESOURCES INVOLVEMENT IN CHP

Montana now has a Human Resources Council, and CHP agencies are being viewed as one possible vehicle for establishing involvement in this program. Possibly each local structure and area structure could have a subcommittee devoted to human resources. The CHP staff has met with the Governor's representative and the heads of various departments of Montana government to see what kind of coordination and cooperation can be achieved to further the cause of human resources involvement within the broad perspective of comprehensive health planning.

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CHP OFFICE HIRES FOUR FIELD MEN

To facilitate CHP organizational activities, four field men have been hired by the CHP Office to do the necessary contact work in getting areawide organizations created. Three of the men--Don Jacobson in Great Falls, Ron Dunn in Billings and Don Johnson in Helena--have been actively setting up meetings for the CHP staff since the middle of June. The fourth man, Pat Campbell, has been added to help the Western Montana Areawide Health Services Planning Council.

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MONTANA
Comprehensive Health Planning NEWS

Vol 1 - No. 2 | 35 - 11th Avenue, Helena, Montana | 449-3121 | August 15, 1969

DISTRICT TWO ELECTS STEERING COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP AREA BYLAWS

Well over 100 interested persons from 11 of the 12 counties in District Two attended a meeting in Fort Benton July 10 to begin work on organizing that district for Comprehensive Health Planning. Following a two-hour program on the objectives and needs for CHP, a steering committee of nine persons was elected to formulate bylaws for the district. Committee members including Orin Cure, Great Falls attorney and chairman, Dennis Caldwell, Havre hospital administrator, Herb Pepion, Conrad, Dr. Richard Buker, Chester, Gilbert Horn, Fort Belknap, Betty Swenson, Choteau nurse, and Ray Goodell, a county commissioner from Dutton, met in Fort Benton August 7 and formulated tentative working bylaws for the district.

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN RETURNS FROM EUROPE

Dr. Frank McPhail, Great Falls, chairman of Montana's Advisory Council on Comprehensive Health Planning has returned from a European vacation to resume his position as Council chairman. Dr. Bryce Hughett, vice-chairman of the Council, acted in Dr. McPhail's place. At the June meeting of the Advisory Council, Dr. McPhail and Dr. Hughett were re-elected as chairman and vice-chairman of the Council, respectively.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE WILL PREPARE POSITION PAPER FOR PLANNERS

The Advisory Council's Committee on Environmental Health met with a panel of 17 State agency officials and University representatives at the University Biological Station at Yellow Bay on Flathead Lake August 8 and 9. One of the outcomes of the meeting, according to George Darrow, chairman of the Committee, will be the preparation of an environmental health position paper. Perry Roys, Director of Montana's Department of Planning and Economic Development, urged the Committee to document the State's environmental health problems and suggest solutions which could be incorporated in a state comprehensive plan. Roys stated that Montana "needs a group such as this to provide expertise in state government on problems dealing with the human health consequences of programs which involve environmental change."

RESEARCH ANALYST ADDED TO STAFF

Psychologist Ted Clack, formerly of Boulder, has been added to the CHP staff as a research analyst. Clack's research talents will be utilized by the staff for conducting research studies, collecting data for these studies, and analyzing the relevant data for reports.

CONSUMER VACANCY IS FILLED

Mr. Eddie Foote, Ashland, a member of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, has been appointed to fill a consumer vacancy on the State's Advisory Council. There is still one consumer vacancy waiting to be filled.

EASTERN DISTRICT SURVEY IS SENT TO UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Al Olsen, Director of Comprehensive Health Planning for the Eastern Montana Community Health Planning organization, told the State CHP staff that the district's $100,000 OEO funded survey on the health needs of people in Montana's eastern 16 counties has been sent to the University of Chicago for processing and that feedback is expected in the near future. Olsen, reporting on an Eastern District Council meeting, indicated that the organization would again seek OEO funding for the coming year.

MEDICAL CARE COSTS CONTRIBUTE TO CPI JUMP

"The Consumer Price Index rose another 0.6 percent in June with the medical care index rising 0.5 percent. Higher physicians' fees contributed most to the rise, says the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics. The report shows that medical care prices have risen 7.5 percent since last June," reports Medicine and Health.

DISTRICT FIVE ANNUAL MEETING SLATED FOR SEPTEMBER 18

The annual meeting of the South-Central Regional Health Planning Council will be held Thursday, September 18, in Billings. The meeting will bring together, for the first time, representatives of all counties in District Five

INVOLVEMENT GROWING IN DISTRICT FIVE

Meetings providing a forum on comprehensive health planning have been held in Wheatland, Golden Valley, Musselshell, Treasure, Stillwater and Big Horn counties in District Five. Purpose of the meetings has been twofold. First, an attempt is being made to create county organizations for health planning, which will act as implementing forces and sources of feedback relative to health needs, and second, the meetings serve to get involvement in the South-Central Health Planning Council.

BUTTE, BOZEMAN, HELENA INTERESTS HAMMER OUT BYLAWS FOR DISTRICT FOUR

Steering committees, selected at meetings held in Townsend, Bozeman and Butte, met August 4 in Three Forks to work on tentative working bylaws for that district. Following deliberations on the various points needed within the bylaws, the assembled group elected an areawide steering committee--one representative from each county. The members on the committee will work with the State Office, and will be seeking board and general membership from within their respective counties. Members of the areawide steering committee include: L.R. Steen, Lewis and Clark; Mrs. Anne Needham, Deer Lodge; E.L.(Dutch) Spainhower, Gallatin; Phil Loucks, Madison; Art Cool, Park; Harold Greiner, Silver Bow; Allen LeMieux, Jefferson; Tony Francisco, Broadwater; and Terry Robinson, Powell. Representatives for the steering committee from Meagher and Beaverhead counties are being selected now. A budget committee was also elected that evening. Members of the budget committee include: Miss Anna Pearl Sherrick, School of Nursing, Montana State University, Bozeman; Richard Timmerman, Helena banker; and Mrs. Grace Bates of Manhattan.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT CHANGES BYLAWS

The most recent activity in the Northwestern Areawide Health Planning Council involves recommendations for changes in the group's bylaws to make them compatible with all the interests in the eight-county area. Final approval on the bylaws is expected in the near future. Meanwhile, Pat Campbell, who is assisting the State Advisory Council in its efforts to solidify the organizing in District One, has been garnering the necessary legitimazation--recognition--from County Commissioners in the area.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION ENDORSES PHILOSOPHY AND INTENT OF C.H.P.

The Montana Association of County Commissioners met in Great Falls the week of June 22 and of major importance to those persons interested in the comprehensive health planning effort was the endorsement by this body of a resolution prepared by the Comprehensive Health Planning staff, which called for endorsement of the philosophy and intent of the Comprehensive Health Planning program. Staff member Dave Depew spoke to the Association of County Commissioners Tuesday, June 24.

CHP PROJECT GRANT APPROVED FOR ALCOHOLISM PROGRAM IN HELENA AREA

A$48,455 project grant, provided through the "e" section of the Partnership for Health Act, P.L. 89-749, has been awarded to the Rocky Mountain Development Council--headquartered in Helena--for an alcoholism information and referral center. Notice of the grant came from Robert Hickman, Regional Program Director at the Denver Office of Comprehensive Health Planning, to Ross Cannon, a Helena attorney who is serving as president of the Rocky Mountain Development Council. The program is to serve Lewis and Clark, Broadwater and Jefferson counties.

Staff
Robert Johnson, Acting Director
Dave Depew, Planning Consultant
Ted Clack, Research Analyst

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MONTANA
Comprehensive Health Planning NEWS

Vol. 1 - No. 3 | 35 - 11th Avenue, Helena, Montana | 449-3121 | October 3, 1969

STAFF GOOFS

In our August 15 edition of the Montana Comprehensive Health Planning News, we listed the names of those individuals in District 2 who were elected to serve on that District's steering committee. However, we neglected to mention the names of Al Klingler, Shelby, and Joe Moorse, Fort Benton, as members of that nine-man committee.

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COPIES OF BLUM'S CHP MANUAL AVAILABLE ON LOAN BASIS

Ten copies of Henrik Blum's Comprehensive Health Planning manual have been received by your state CHP office. Individuals wishing to borrow a copy of this publication on a two or three week basis may do so by writing the state CHP office.

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WASHINGTON OFFICIAL SAYS COBALT THERAPY UNITS NOT NEEDED IN CITIES UNDER 300,000 IN POPULATION

Sheldon Miller, with the Office of Equipment Consultation, Health Facilities Planning and Construction Service of the Public Health Service, has provided the state CHP office with information concerning cobalt therapy units, which might be of interest to some Montanans. In October of 1968, at a meeting of regional officers of the Public Health Service, a question was raised as to where medical facilities could obtain reliable information regarding the use of cobalt machines and the numbers of treatments required per day to justify the high cost of the unit. The participants at the conference were told that: (1) the cost of the units is approximately $100,000--$50,000 of which is the installation cost; (2) the cobalt unit runs 14 hours per day; (3) thirty minutes is required to process each patient treatment; (4) the income from the unit is never enough to pay even the interest on the investment; (5) a cobalt unit is not warranted in a city of less than 300,000 people; (6) a minimum of 14 to 15 treatments per day are necessary for operator proficiency. It was also pointed out that cobalt is being supplemented or replaced in many instances by new advances in chemotherapy.

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DISTRICT 3 APPLYING FOR OEO FUNDS

The Eastern Montana Community Health Planning Council is presently applying for refunding for their health planning activities. The group is applying for OEO funding. The work program submitted to OEO calls for a staff of three.

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DIRECTORS OF DISTRICT 4 TO HOLD MEETING IN WHITEHALL OCTOBER 9

The first meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors of the Southwestern Areawide Health Planning Council will meet in Whitehall's Community Building beginning at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, October 9. In addition to electing officers for the newly formed board, the group will approve bylaws and articles of incorporation and begin work on a planning program for the district.

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ANNUAL MEETING OF NORTHWEST AREAWIDE COUNCIL SET FOR OCTOBER 7

The annual general membership meeting of the Northwest Montana Areawide Health Planning Council will be held Tuesday, October 7, at 6:30 p.m. in the Governor's Room of the Hotel Florence in Missoula. Agenda items include a report on progress of incorporation and legitimation from county commissioners; the election of directors; status report on comprehensive health planning in Montana by CHP staffer Dave Depew. The meeting will also serve as a forum for the introduction of any medical problems from counties to the general Council.

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COUNCIL NOMINATIONS SUBMITTED TO GOVERNOR

Lieutenant Governor Tom Judge is among the three persons selected by the Advisory Council's Executive Committee to fill vacancies in the Council. The other two individuals include Hugh Standley, president of Montana's LIGHT (Low Income Group for Human Treatment) organization and Don Pizzini, a Great Falls sanitarian.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETS

The State Advisory Council's Committee on Environmental Health met in Helena September 24. Many of the Committee members were in Helena for a three day conference on the environmental effects of pesticides. Jim Posewitz, who heads the Fish and Game Department's new division of Environmental Resources, told the group that his activities were not duplicating or overlapping, that many federally funded multi-purpose projects--such as the Libby Dam project--were multi-purpose in name only with the result that wildlife often suffered terribly in man's efforts to erect the most efficient and least expensive hydro-electric plant.

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SOUTH CENTRAL AREA ELECTS NEW BOARD

The Billings based South Central Health Planning Council held its annual meeting in Billings on September 18, at which time a new board was elected which provides for membership from each of the counties served by the planning district. Representatives from each of the counties had been selected this summer at meetings held by the state CHP staff in each of the counties. Dr. Colvin Agnew, council president, provided the county representatives with a brief history of activities of the South-Central organization and the state CHP staff provided information on the application of 314(b) planning monies. Those elected to the board included: Alex Neyes, Tom Sylvestor and Mrs. Wallace Schoer, Big Horn; Dr. William Asbury and Walter Warner, Carbon; Al Lasater, Golden Valley; Joe Vicars and Dr. Tom Moylan, Musselshell; Robert Wodrich and Dr. C.H. Swanson, Jr., Stillwater; Henry DeCock and Pearl Taylor, Treasure; John Nelson and Barbara Lehfedt, Wheatland; Mrs. Earl Rosell, Marshall Huntsberry, M. Nemer, Miriam Sample, E.F. Carlson, Henry Cox, Thor Myhre, J. Lawson Lee, John Whittinghill, Don Peterson, Sister Alice Marie, Arthur Lamey, Jr., and Dr. Colvin Agnew, Yellowstone.

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STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL TO MEET IN BILLINGS ON NOVEMBER 21

Montana's State Advisory Council on Comprehensive Health Planning will meet in Billings on Friday, November 21, beginning at 9 a.m. in the Rimrock Lodge. Executive Committee action dealing with action programs to meet priorities established by the Council at its last meeting will be reviewed and the Council's five standing committees will have several hours in which to meet.

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MANPOWER TASK FORCE TO TACKLE PROBLEMS IN USING PARAPROFESSIONALS

Dr. Jessie Bierman, who has replaced Robert Higgins as chairman of the Manpower Committee, following his recent resignation, will head an effort to make better use of Montana's health manpower. This effort will include an in-depth study of the possible use of paraprofessional personnel. An ad hoc committee of leaders in the various health professions will meet for the first time in Billings, November 20, just prior to the Advisory Council meeting on November 21.

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Staff Members
Robert Johnson, Acting Director
David Depew, Program Coordinator
Ted Clack, Research Analyst

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Comprehensive Health Planning NEWS

Vol. 1 - No. 4 | 35 - 11th Avenue, Helena, Montana | 449-3121 | November 5, 1969

BOARD AND OFFICERS ELECTED FOR DISTRICT 4

The Board of Directors of the newly formed Southwestern Areawide Health Planning Council met for the first time on October 9 in Whitehall. At this meeting bylaws were adopted, officers were elected and an exchange of ideas on how to proceed with the job at hand took place. Arthur R. Cool, Livingston, was elected president of the organization. Cool, following his election as president, asked the many health professionals, governmental representatives and interested citizens, to provide as much help as they could muster in this effort to find new solutions to some very old health problems. Other officers elected October 9 include: Russell Steen, Helena hospital administrator, vice-president; Mrs. Boyd Taylor, Butte, secretary; and Wayne Thompson, D.D.S., Bozeman, treasurer.

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DISTRICT 3 GETS THE FEDS TO PRACTICE WHAT THEY PREACH

If present efforts in District 3 (the eastern 16 counties) are successful--and we have every reason to believe they will--then one of the first examples of a joint effort on the part of several federal agencies to resolve a particular problem will have taken place in Montana. It is well-known that many of the health related problems existing in this sparsely populated area are related to economics. A joint effort by the Office of Economic Opportunity, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and the Department of Housing and Urban Development is presently underway to launch a social and economic development program in this area, a component of which would deal with health. A meeting is being held in Billings on November 6 at which time nationally known consultants, leaders from Washington, D.C., Helena and the eastern 16 counties will gather to discuss the approach. Comprehensive Health Planning will be represented.

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ADVISORY COUNCIL TO MEET IN BILLINGS

The Advisory Council, as was mentioned in our last newsletter, will meet Friday, November 21, beginning at 9 a.m. at the Rimrock Lodge in Billings. A great deal of action is expected at the meeting as well as at the standing committee meetings for which several hours will be devoted. The Areawide Committee is expected to have to act on the application of three areawide organizations seeking Council legitimation, as well as to consider grant applications from at least one areawide organization. The Facilities Committee will undoubtedly be concerned and interested in the Galen position paper which has been created and which will be ready for their consideration. The Manpower Committee will be hearing reports on the launching of a Manpower Task Force and appropriate action will be needed. The Personal Health Services Committee will be posted on the latest efforts to launch a task force study of the delivery of health care to low income people. The ever active Environmental Health Committee will be meeting for the second time in two days and for the third time in a month and as always will have extensive business on the agenda, and many recommendations for the Council.

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TWO COMMITTEES MEETING PRIOR TO COUNCIL GATHERING

The Environmental Health Committee and the Task Force Committee established to investigate the feasibility of utilizing a nurse-practitioner or physicians' assistants to help meet the growing need for health manpower, will both have meetings prior to the Council meeting. The Environmental group will meet Thursday, November 20, beginning at 9 a.m. in the Midland Bank Building, and the Manpower Task Force is scheduled to meet at the Rimrock Lodge beginning at 1:30 p.m., also on Thursday.

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DISTRICT TWO TO HOLD SECOND MASS MEETING

The second mass meeting of all persons in District Two interested in the comprehensive approach to health planning will be held in Fort Benton Thursday, November 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the high school multipurpose room--the same location as the July 10 meeting. At the July 10 meeting a nine-man steering committee was elected from among the more than 100 persons attending to draw up bylaws and articles of incorporation to be presented to the body at a subsequent meeting. The State CHP office has reproduced the bylaws and articles of incorporation created by this steering committee and has mailed these to all those attending the July 10 meeting.

NEWS COLUMN LAUNCHED

A news column entitled "Your Child's Health" is presently being distributed to 40 Montana newspapers from the State CHP office. Earlier this year all Montana weeklies were queried as to whether or not they could use this type of filler material--40 of them asked for the material. Topics covered so far include dental health, rubella, Montana's crippled children's program, the use of iodized salt and the State's comprehensive health planning program.

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DR. JOHN DANIELS TO HELP WITH SURVEY

John Daniels, M.D., has volunteered to aid efforts being made by the Environmental Health Committee to survey all groups, organizations, institutions and interested individuals, which have, in recent years, made studies or surveys which relate to Montana's environment. Dr. Daniels is presently living in the Missoula area.

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COUNTY PROFILES READY FOR DISTRIBUTION

County Health Profiles, being prepared by the CHP staff, with the assistance of the Health Department's Division of Records and Statistics, are nearly ready for distribution.

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CHP STAFF ATTENDING REGIONAL CONFERENCE

A regional conference of state CHP personnel was held in Salt Lake City on October 29 and 30. The regional conference affords the staff an opportunity to catch up on what is happening nationally with comprehensive health planning, what other states are doing, and affords participants an opportunity to make recommendations to regional and national comprehensive health planning leaders on what direction must now be taken, what is needed at the local and state levels and what must be done by higher levels of planning. Staff Director Bob Johnson and Program Coordinator Dave Depew left Salt Lake City for Chandler, Arizona to attend a three-day conference on the progress, problems and perspectives of comprehensive health planning, which was being sponsored by the California Medical Education and Research Foundation. Others from Montana attending the Chandler meeting included: Dr. Colvin Agnew, Billings; Dr. Pat McCarthy, Missoula; Senator Gordon Bollinger, Glasgow; Dr. John Bovington, Helena; Jack Coggeshall, Helena; Dr. William Danner, Sidney; Harold Greiner, Butte; Dr. James Armstrong, Kalispell; Russ Hegland, Billings; Dean Jellison, Kalispell.

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Comprehensive Health Planning NEWS

Vol. 1- No. 5 | 35 - 11th Avenue, Helena, Montana | 449-3121 | November 28, 1969

Leaders Conference Being Planned

WHAT REMAINS UNANSWERED ABOUT COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH PLANNING!

A leadership conference and advanced training in comprehensive health planning is being planned for February in Helena. The conference will afford local citizens involved in the comprehensive health planning effort an opportunity to have nationally recognized CHP leaders from the University of California available for guidance, and to answer - along with the State staff - specific questions about CHP.

The overall objective of this conference shall be to insure a singular direction for Montana's comprehensive health planning effort through involvement of key leaders from each district in this conference. Organizational structures have been developed, a great many citizens have become involved, and the question of "where to from here?" must be, and shall be, answered.

One of the keys to a successful comprehensive health planning effort is citizen participation. Recognizing this and the fact that limited financing restricts direct participation in the conference to a limited number of people, the CHP staff is asking as many persons as it can to discover what local citizens involved in the effort feel has been unanswered about the comprehensive health planning program.

It is essential to our assessment of what is known, and what is not known about comprehensive health planning, that you ask those questions which are on your mind. It is realized that in most instances your degree of involvement will determine the nature of your query.

These questions should be written on the remaining white space of this bulletin and the bulletin should be returned - as soon as it is completed - to: Dave Depew, Comprehensive Health Planning, 35 11th Avenue, Helena, Montana, 59601.

We shall need these queries returned by December 19 in order to appropriately plan for this seminar. Thank you.

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MONTANA
Comprehensive Health Planning NEWS

Vol 1 - No. 6 35 - 11th Avenue, Helena, Montana 449-3121 December 22, 1969

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE ON CHP IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 2-5

A CHP seminar for state and area CHP leaders will be held in Helena March 2-5, 1970 in the House of Representatives. The conference, which is being sponsored by the American Public Health Association through a CHP training grant, will be conducted by the University of California's Berkeley CHP staff. The specific purpose of the conference is to give state and area leaders a working understanding of the principles and processes involved in CHP. Following preliminary orientation, discussion groups will attack four specific problems which are applicable to this State. It is hoped that in addition to having participants become knowledgeable of the health planning process, that the University expertise will aid the State in its efforts to resolve these four problem areas which are currently being documented by the State CHP staff for the faculty. CHP News readers have already received a newsletter in which we explained the limitations placed on the number of participants and in which we sought everyone's ideas on what remains unanswered about CHP. We hope to make use of the staff's and faculty's evening hours, during this seminar, in informal talks with interested participants on specific problems.

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EMCHA RECEIVES OEO FUNDING

As has been reported in the press, the Eastern Montana Community Health Association has received a grant of $87,840 from the federal government through the Office of Economic Opportunity to continue its health planning services program. The 16-county organization is presently preparing an application for 314(b) planning money to be used in conjunction with the action money received from OEO, and is recruiting for three staff positions. Pete Coffey, president of EMCHA, told the State CHP staff that emphasis initially is being placed in five areas, including: continued development of a comprehensive health planning program; health manpower training, a health services out-reach program; health screening programs; and, health education and accident prevention.

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HELENA HOSPITAL CLOSES MATERNITY DEPARTMENT

Helena's St. John's Hospital has closed its maternity department. Reasons given by the hospital board include: health planning to meet community needs stresses the elimination of duplication; it was the hospital's most expensive instance of duplication and underutilization; the space was needed at St. John's for medical-surgical beds; and, staffing problems will be alleviated as only one maternity department will remain in the capital city (St. Peter's).

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MHA SECRETARY HEADS CHP FACILITY COMMITTEE

At its November 21 meeting, Montana's Advisory Council appointed William Leary, executive secretary of the Montana Hospital Association, as chairman of the Health Facilities Committee. Charles Harrington, Butte, former chairman of this committee, resigned as chairman, but will retain his position on the Council.

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COUNCIL APPROVES THREE NOMINEES TO COUNCIL POSITIONS

Membership on the State Advisory Council of Lieutenant Governor Thomas Judge, Helena; Don Pizzini, Great Falls; and Hugh Standley, Missoula was approved by the Council at its recent Billings business meeting. Judge, well-known through the state for his support of health legislation; Pizzini, a highly recommended sanitarian; and, Hugh Standley, president of Montana's statewide low income organization, are valuable additions to the Council.

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AREAWIDE ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVE RECOGNITION

Montana's Southwestern and South Central areawide health planning organizations received official recognition at the State Advisory Council meeting. The Missoula based Northwestern Areawide Health Planning Council was also given recognition by the Council, dependent upon provision for more adequate representation of socio-economic groups. The Council also passed a motion which provides that at each annual meeting of the State Advisory Council, a review of each areawide organization shall be made to determine if continuation of recognition shall be renewed.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE SEEKS DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS FOR REPORT

A recommendation from the Health Facilities Committee that every effort be made to secure funds to conduct one or more demonstration projects whereby tuberculosis patients could be treated in general hospitals was endorsed by the Council. The motion originated with the Committee's effort to achieve optimal utilization of the State tuberculosis institution at Galen. In connection with this, the Committee also asked the Council to appoint a task force dedicated to a study of the proper utilization of the facility at Galen. The Committee proposed that the task force may be comprised of representatives of the medical professions, the Board of Institutions, the warden of the State Prison, the State Board of Health, the Governor's office, the office of Vocational Rehabilitation and interested legislators. The results of both the demonstration projects and the task force are to be completed by December 1, 1970.

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CARPINO ACCEPTS CHAIRMANSHIP OF LOW INCOME TASK FORCE

Paul Carpino, director of Missoula-Mineral Human Resources Council, has accepted chairmanship of a task force which will be studying the delivery of medical care to low income people in Montana. It was decided by the Council that the task force would consist of five members from State areawide organizations, five members from the State low income organization--with representation from as widely a geographic area as possible--and five members to be selected at large.

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MANPOWER TASK FORCE HOLDS FIRST MEETING

On November 20, the Advisory Council's Manpower Task Force met to organize a planning and action program to stimulate the maximum use of all health personnel in Montana. Members of the task force include: E.L. Stickney, M.D., Miles City; Mrs. Lois Schultze, R.N., Missoula; Sidney Pratt, M.D., director of the Regional Medical Program, Great Falls; Alfred Fulton, M.D., Billings; Dr. Leroy Anderson, University of Montana, Missoula; Dix Shevalier, Helena; Virginia Kenyon, R.N., director of the Nursing Division, State Department of Health, Helena; and, Jessie Bierman, M.D., Lakeside, chairman. The task force directed the staff to prepare a documented background on the health manpower problem in Montana utilizing already existing surveys and studies on this subject, and to do a thorough review of our present legislation governing the practice of the health professions in Montana. In addition, the CHP staff will seek out recent changes in legislation in other states that have utilized the services of allied health personnel.

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FORMER RMP STAFFER HIRED FOR MANPOWER REPORT PROJECT

Larry Halford, a former member of the Regional Medical Program who is presently working on his doctorate at the University of Montana, has been hired as a consultant to prepare the preliminary manpower report requested by the CHP Advisory Council.

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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE SEES NEED FOR GREATER SAFEGUARDS

Top priority for the Environmental Health Committee is to seek a state system of site permits. The recommendation, which received Council approval, reads as follows: "that a study be initiated by the office of CHP to serve as a basis for legislation establishing a state system of permits for commercial and industrial operations which constitute a source of environmental degradation; that any permit system resulting from the study provide for documentation of the use of, and effect on, the total environment including but not necessarily limited to solids, water, geology, vegetation, wildlife, topography, atmosphere, recreation, rehabilitation and the effect of interacting natural systems which extend beyond the strict limit of the site; that any permit system resulting from the study provide for proper evaluation and review by all interested groups agencies and individuals.

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SUBCOMMITTEES ESTABLISHED BY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Three environmental subcommittees were established at the November 20 meeting of the Environmental Committee. These committees include: Environmental Health Planning Liaison, headed by Daphne Bugbee, which will meet with members of the Architectural Association and others involved in the planning process to focus their interests on environmental health planning concepts; Environmental Health Education, headed by Dr. John Jutila, which will explore ways and means of furthering public education in environmental health matters; and Environmental Management, headed by Dr. Richard McConnen, which will examine the alternates of the institutional machinery whereby environmental health planning can be effected.

M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S -- H A P P Y N E W Y E A R !!!